

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6102

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, KS

SUBJECT: KNCC STATEMENT

REF: SEOUL 6064 (200848Z JUL 77)

SUMMARY: TEXT OF STATEMENT BY KNCC ISSUED ON JULY 18 TRANSMITTED BELOW. ALTHOUGH STATEMENT ADDRESSES NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL, ANTI-KOREAN ACTIVITIES OVERSEAS AND QUESTION OF GOVERNMENT LENIENCY TO EM-9 VIOLATORS, SOURCES IN KNCC DESCRIBE IT AS ALSO RESPONSE TO RELEASE OF PRISONERS BY ROKG ON JULY 17. THESE SOURCES SAY MESSAGE WAS DESIGNED TO KEEP PRESSURE ON ROKG ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE, BUT NOT BE SO STRONG AS TO DISCOURAGE ROKG FROM PROCEEDING WITH PRISONER RELEASE. KNCC REPORTS THAT IT HAS BEEN TOLD INFORMALLY THAT ROKG WAS PLEASED WITH STATEMENT. END SUMMARY

1. ON JULY 18, KNCC ISSUED STATEMENT ON NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL, ANTI-KOREAN ACTIVITIES OVERSEAS AND QUESTION OF GOVERNMENT LENIENCY TO
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EM-9 VIOLATORS. ALTHOUGH STATEMENT DID NOT SPECIFICALLY REFER TO RELEASE OF PRISONERS ON JULY 17, KNCC SOURCES TOLD EMBOFF THAT STATEMENT WAS ALSO EXPRESSION OF REACTION TO THAT EVENT. COMMENT: GIVEN FACT THAT KNCC WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT MORE MYONGDONG DEFENDANTS WERE NOT AMONG THOSE FREED, KNCC EVIDENTLY DECLINED TO COMMENT DIRECTLY ON RELEASE. HOWEVER, SINCE KNCC PLEASED THAT FIRST STEP IN DIRECTION OF

LIBERATION OF EM-9 PRISONERS TAKEN, STATEMENT WELCOMED POLICY AS EXPRESSED IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDATION.

2. KNCC SOURCES INDICATED TO EMBOFF THAT AT SAME TIME STATEMENT WAS DESIGNED TO KEEP PRESSURE ON ROKG AND AVOID PERMITTING LIMITED ROKG CONCESSIONS ROB HUMAN RIGHTS STRUGGLE OF ITS MOMENTUM. THIS WAS DONE BY PRESSING FOR LENIENCY FOR THOSE "DEMOCRATICALLY ORIENTED PERSONS" CONVICTED OF VIOLATING ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW AND BY NOTING KOREAN PEOPLE'S ASPIRATIONS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL FIELDS.

3. KNCC ALSO MADE EFFORT TO AVOID MAKING STATEMENT SO STRONG AS TO DISCOURAGE ROKG FROM PROCEEDING WITH FURTHER RELEASES OF PRISONERS. KNCC SOURCES SAID THEY WERE RELIEVED WHEN THEY WERE TOLD INFORMALLY THAT ROKG WAS PLEASED WITH STATEMENT.

4. TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

"WE WELCOME THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDATION ON THE CURRENT SITUATION AND TWO OTHER RESOLUTIONS OPPOSING WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. FORCES FROM KOREA AND CONCERNING ANTI-STATE ACTIVITIES. WE AGREE WITH THE BASIC POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT WHICH SEEKS TO SOLVE THE VARIOUS POLITICAL SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF THIS COUNTRY. WE HOPE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TAKE PROMPT ACTION ON THESE RESOLUTIONS AND WE HEREBY CLARIFY OUR POSITION
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ON THE AFORESAID MATTERS. WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT, FOR EFFECTIVE ANTI-COMMUNIST POSTURE AND TOTAL NATIONAL UNITY, THAT A SYSTEM OF LAWS AND A TRULY DEMOCRATIC ORDER IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR PEOPLE BE ESTABLISHED.

WE RECOMMEND THAT THE EM VIOLATORS IN JAIL BE FREED IMMEDIATELY WITHOUT CONDITION OR RESTRICTION IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THE PRESENT DIFFICULT SITUATION. WE ALSO RECOMMEND THAT THOSE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED ON THE CHARGE OF VIOLATION OF ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW, BECAUSE OF DISTORTION OF THEIR DEMOCRATIC REMARKS AND BEHAVIOR, MUST BE SCRUPULOUSLY RE-TRIED AND FREED.

WE ALSO SUGGES THAT THE AUTHORITIES SHOULD NOT INCLUDE RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS ACTING FOR RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION IN THE CATEGORY OF ANTI-ROK ORGANIZATIONS, AND FOR THAT PURPOSE A CLEAR STANDARD MUST BE FORMULATED, SO THAT WHEAT AND CHAFF MAY NOT BE MIXED UP.

WE HOPE, ON THIS OCCASION, THAT A PLICY OF IMPROVEMENT WILL BE FORMULATED, SO THAT THE ASPIRATIONS OF ALL KOREAN PEOPLE MAY BE REFLECTED FULLY AND CORRECTLY IN ALL FIELDS,

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL, AND WE ALSO HOPE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION
WILL EXERT EFFORTS FOR REVOCATION OF WITHDRAWAL OF U.S.
GROUND FORCES FROM KOREA.

KOREAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES"
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